GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1470
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the community radio stations are not allowed to broadcast news and current affairs programmes whereas private TV channels are allowed the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to change the existing policy in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when the community radio stations are likely to be allowed to broadcast news and current affairs programmes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R.DASMUNSI)

(a) As per the Policy guidelines on Community Radio, news and current affairs programmes are not allowed to be broadcast on community radio.

(b) The Community Radio Station broadcast is localized and caters to a small area. In the absence of a mechanism to monitor and regulate the content, news and current affairs has not been allowed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) & (e) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.